

October 22, 1999

Honorable Trent Lott
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-2403

Dear Senator Lott:

Your recent communications to the FBI on behalf of [REDACTED] American Family Association, were brought to my attention. This also serves to respond to your October 18th correspondence to Attorney General Reno, which was referred to the FBI. [REDACTED] advises that his Association has received unsolicited, threatening e-mail, which he indicates was reported to the FBI.

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On October 7th, the American Family Association contacted our Jackson Office (Tupelo, Mississippi, Resident Agency) about an alleged threatening communication received via the Internet, and the FBI opened an investigation into the matter on October 8th. This investigation is ongoing and receiving appropriate investigative attention. While [REDACTED] alludes to having received "similar threats" prior to the one reported to the FBI on October 7th, our Jackson Office has advised that neither that Office nor the local U.S. Attorney's Office has any record of having been notified of previous threats.

I can certainly understand [REDACTED] desire to have this matter resolved as quickly as possible. I have been advised that the Agent assigned to this case will contact Reverend Wildmon or other representatives of the Association for the additional information he may have about the alleged previous threats. While we would like to provide additional information, it is a longstanding Department of Justice and FBI policy not to reveal details on pending cases. This policy exists to protect the rights of all parties involved and to prevent any impact on any criminal charges which might result. I have been assured that our Jackson Office is working diligently to bring this investigation to a conclusion as quickly as possible. Once all of the facts have been completely developed, the prosecutive merits of the case will be determined by the appropriate U.S. Attorney, and [REDACTED] will be apprised of his or her decision.

1 - SAC, Jackson (9A-JN-NEW) (P) - Encs.
Attention ASAC [REDACTED] ReBufax 10/21/99
and ur e-mail same date to [REDACTED], OPCA.
1 - VC/FU, CID (5042) - Encs.
1 - CAO (7240) - Encs.
1 - OPCA ES (7240) - Enc.
62C-HQ-1077229

NOTE: Reply based on information furnished by the Jackson Office.

Case ID : 62F-HQ-C1077229

Serial : 9806

BHM:bhm
Honorable Trent Lott

If I can be of further assistance about this or other matters of concern, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,



Legislative Counsel
Office of Public and
Congressional Affairs

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